

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CANBER 05463 030532Z

21 11

ACTION AGR-20

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 EB-11 SAJ-01 COME-00 TRSE-00

OMB-01 AID-20 STR-08 SS-15 NSC-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 SPC-03

CIEP-02 NIC-01 DRC-01 /135 W
----- 129052

R 030506Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1774

INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

USLO PEKING

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CANBERRA 5463

PASS AGRICULTURE FOR GRAIN AND FEED DIV FAS/W

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, EGEN, ETRD, AS

SUBJ: PRC/AUSTRALIAN WHEAT CONTRACT

REF: HONG KONG 9840

CANBERRA 4121

CANBERRA 4177

1. DOT MINISTER CAIRNS STATEMENT IN HONG KONG WHEAT SHIPMENTS TO PRC WOULD PROBABLY NOT EXCEED 1 MILLION TONS REFERS TO SHIPMENTS FROM 1973/74 CROP TO BE HARVESTED OCT/DEC THIS YEAR AND TO BE SHIPPED CALENDAR YEAR 1974. PROPOSED AGREEMENT WITH PRC IS FOR THREE YEARS COVERING 1974, 1975, AND 1976. AWB CHAIRMAN CASS AND ASST GEN MANAGER JOHN WILLIAMS SCHEDULED TO LEAVE AUSTRALIA OCT 6 PROVIDED STRIKE SITUATION AT AIRPORTS PERMITS DEPARTURE. GOA OFFICIALS ATTACH GREAT IMPORTANCE TO COMPLETION OF NEGOTIATIONS NEXT WEEK, AS SIGNING OF CONTRACT DESIRABLE BEFORE PRIME MINISTER WHITLAM VISIT TO PEKING LATER THIS MONTH.

2. CURRENT CONTRACT WITH PRC FOR 1 MILLION TONS NEGOTIATED LATE
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1972 IS BEING SHIPPED AT STEADY RATE. TOTAL SHIPPED TO SEPT

15 AMOUNTED TO 492,999 METRIC TONS AND COMPLETION OF CONTRACT
NOW LIKELY TO BE STEPPED UP AFTER MID OCTOBER. FIRST SHIPMENTS
UNDER PROPOSED THREE-YEAR AGREEMENT TO BE MADE IN JANUARY PROVIDED
AGREEMENT ON TERMS AND CONDITIONS CAN BE REACHED.

3. NORTH KOREA HAS BEEN HAPHAZARD CUSTOMER FOR AUSTRALIAN WHEAT
IN PAST, BUYING NONE SOME YEARS AND PURCHASES OF UP TO 128,000
TONS IN OTHER YEARS. THERE ARE NO INDICATIONS HERE THAT EITHER
GOA OR AWB HAVE MADE ATTEMPT TO SELL WHEAT TO NORTH VIETNAM.
GREEN

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: WHEAT, COMMODITY AGREEMENTS, CONTRACTS
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Draft Date: 03 OCT 1973
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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: smithrj
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
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Executive Order: N/A
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EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

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